

Delaware students honored by SkillsUSA at national conference

Highly skilled students and advisors from across Delaware brought home honors from the 54th annual National SkillsUSA Leadership Conference last month in Louisville, Kentucky. Delaware students represented our state in competitive events such as: architectural drafting, automotive service technology, aviation maintenance technology, carpentry, computer programming, cosmetology, criminal justice, diesel equipment technology, electronics technology, extemporaneous speaking, heating, ventilation, air conditioning & refrigeration, industrial motor controls, information technology, masonry, plumbing, prepared speech, technical math, welding, and more.

Highlights include:

- A delegation of 83 students and advisors from six schools represented Delaware in national competition.
- Delaware students earned 10 Top 10 national honors.
- Seven students were honored as national medalists. **Gold Medalist:** Ashish D'Souza (computer programming); **Bronze Medalist(s):** Chase Albright, Ryan Bradley, Sydney Gross, and Hannah Wolk (broadcast news production); Robert Bell (internetworking); and Alex Colon Perez (sheet metal).

Top 10 national placements:

1st place Computer programming
Ashish D'Souza of POLYTECH High School
(POLYTECH School District)

3rd place Broadcast news production
Chase Albright, Ryan Bradley, Sydney Gross & Hannah
Wolk of Sussex Tech High School (Sussex Technical School
District)

3rd place Internetworking
Robert Bell of
POLYTECH High School

3rd place Sheet
metal Alex
Colon Perez of Delcastle Tech High School (New Castle County
Vo-Tech School District)

4th place Audio radio production
Jacob Hoffpauir & Josh
Hoffpauir of Sussex Tech High School

6th place Advertising design
Haley Norwood of Sussex Tech High School

7th place Career pathways human services
Denise Garcia Alonzo, Courtney Respes & Alyssa Todd
of Delcastle Tech High School

7th place Welding sculpture
Savion Hollis of Delcastle Tech High
School

7th place Industrial motor control
William Shaha of St. Georges
Technical High School (New Castle County Vo-Tech School
District)

8th place Television (video) production
Abigail Drummond and Julia Hardy of
Sussex Tech High School

Participating Schools:

- Delcastle
- Hodgson (NCCVT)
- Howard (NCCVT)
- POLYTECH
- St. Georges
- Sussex Tech

Delaware SkillsUSA is a career and technical student organization dedicated to students who are interested in pursuing their future in technical careers. Through SkillsUSA,

members have the opportunity to participate in career focused competitive events, take part in community service work, and become leaders for the organization in their school, state, and at the national level. SkillsUSA incorporates curricular and co-curricular experiences to emphasize the importance of knowledge, leadership, skill development, and teamwork. To learn more about Delaware SkillsUSA, please visit: <http://delawareskillsusa.org/> or contact Mike Fitzgerald by phone at (302) 735-4015 or by email at Mike.Fitzgerald@doe.k12.de.us.

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